THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The 100 days programme announced by the Government includes major Legislative initiates; Policy initiatives; and Administrative and other initiatives.

(c) and (d) Education is a subject on the Concurrent List of the Constitution, it is the shared responsibility of the both the Central and State Governments. The Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) is the highest advisory body to advise the Central and State Governments in the field of education. Important issues pertaining to education are discussed in the CABE from time to time.

Access to higher education for all

1887. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of students seeking admission in the professional institutions of higher education in both Government and private sectors at graduate and post graduate levels;

(b) how many have been granted admission and how many refused among those during the year 2008-09;

(c) the policy of Government to provide opportunity to all those who are desirous of taking higher education within their affordable expenditure;

(d) whether Government agrees that the doors of higher education should not be closed to those who aspires to pursue higher studies; and

(e) if so, the plans therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Mid-day Meal Scheme

†1888. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of amount is paid to the States by the Central Government under Mid-day Meal Scheme and whether State Governments also contribute in the scheme financially;

(b) whether the quality of this Mid-day Meal being provided to the children is also taken care of by the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of increase in the percentage of students attending schools if any, due to Mid-day Meal Scheme, State-wise?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Under the Mid Day Meal Scheme Central Government provides:

(1) 100% cost of the following components:

(i) **Foodgrains**: Supply of free **food grains** (wheat/rice) @100 grams per child per School Day at Primary classes (I-V) and 150 grams per child per School day at upper primary classes (VI-VIII)

(ii) **Transportation**: Actual cost of **transportation** of food grains from nearest FCI godown to the Primary School subject to the ceiling of Rs. 125 per Quintal for 11 special category States *viz.* Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal and Rs. 75 per quintal for all other States and UTs.

(iii) **Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (MME)**: At the rate of 1.8% of total assistance on (a) free food grains, (b) transport cost and (c) cooking cost. Another 0.2% of the above amount is utilized at the Central Government level for management, monitoring and evaluation.

(iv) One time Central Assistance is provided to States for construction of Kitchen Sheds @ Rs. 60,000 per unit and Rs. 5000 for procurement/replacement of Kitchen Devices for each school covered under MDM Scheme. If this amount is not found adequate for construction of Kitchen Sheds, then the States/UTs are required to mobilize additional resources through convergence with other developmental schemes or State budgetary support.

(2) Central Assistance for Cooking Cost on sharing basis. At Primary stage the Central Assistance towards cooking cost per child/school day is Rs. 1.89 for NER States provided the States contribute minimum 20 paise and Rs. 1.58 for other States/UTs provided the State/UT contribute minimum 50 paise. At Upper Primary stage the Central Assistance towards cooking cost per child/school day is Rs. 2.42 for NER States provided the States contribute minimum 20 paise and Rs. 2.10 for other States/UTs provided the State/UT contribute minimum 50 paise. Some of the States/UTs are contributing more than their mandatory share for providing better quality of mid-day meal to children.

(b) and (c) Though the overall responsibility to ensure all logistic and administrative arrangements for regular serving of wholesome, cooked mid day meal in every eligible school, EGS/AIE centres lies with the State Government/UT Administration, the Central Government has been continuously urging the State Governments to.

— ensure that food is cooked in a hygienic environment;

— food items are stored in dry and safe places;

— adequate drinking water is made available;

— cooks are properly trained in adopting hygienic habits.

Besides, States have also been urged to involve the parents and community members to supervise the cooking and serving of mid-day meal. It is provided in the guidelines that the food prepared is tasted by 2-3 adults including at least one teacher before it is served to children. As and when, any complaint is brought to the notice of the Government, the concerned State Government/UT Administration is asked to conduct suitable enquiry and to take appropriate action against the responsible person(s) and initiate corrective measures to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future.

(d) Enrolment, retention etc. of students in schools depend on several interventions of the Government in the field of education, health, nutrition, economic development, demographic changes, expansion of private sector in Elementary Education etc. including the Mid-Day Meal Scheme. Therefore, change in enrolment cannot be attributed solely to Mid-Day Meal Scheme. State/UT wise change in percentage of enrolment (including private unaided schools in which mid-day meal is not served) between 1995-96 to 2006-07 is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

State/UT-wise change in percentage of enrolment of classes I-V during 1995-96 *and* 2006-07

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Enrolment		Percentage increase/ decrease with respect to 1995-96
		1995-96	2006-07	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7640402	7363237	-3.63
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	141904	200803	41.51
3.	Assam	3352604	3245754	-3.19
4.	Bihar	9961032	11503960	15.49
5.	Chhattisgarh*	0	3195546	—
6.	Goa	127009	114922	-9.52
7.	Gujarat	5879030	6560923	11.60
8.	Haryana	1895897	2197296	15.90
9.	Himachal Pradesh	680709	676245	-0.66
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	865022	1134528	31.16
11.	Jharkhand*	0	4064769	—
12.	Karnataka	6505828	5725006	-12.00

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Kerala	2865066	2524232	-11.90
14.	Madhya Pradesh	9328672	11812968	26.63
15.	Maharashtra	11456469	11648450	1.68
16.	Manipur	232179	369758	59.26
17.	Meghalaya	291980	563708	93.06
18.	Mizoram	117081	150977	28.95
19.	Nagaland	161364	224715	39.26
20.	Orissa	4146193	4485315	8.18
21.	Punjab	2078524	1922553	-7.50
22.	Rajasthan	5928559	9326565	57.32
23.	Sikkim	82561	84999	2.95
24.	Tamil Nadu	8195672	6145971	-25.01
25.	Tripura	431884	493169	14.19
26.	Uttar Pradesh	13395321	25811922	92.69
27.	Uttarakhand*	0	1202153	-
28.	West Bengal	9708543	8862119	-8.72
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	43035	38174	-11.30
30.	Chandigarh	60248	51402	-14.68
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	22010	38058	72.92
32.	Daman and Diu	13903	16403	17.98
33.	Delhi	1375343	1651019	20.04
34.	Lakshadweep	8658	7244	-16.33
35.	Puducherry	102347	110866	8.32
	Total	107095049	133525730	24.68

*Did not exist in the year 1995-96

Source: Selected educational statistics Published by Ministry of HRD

Education scenario in Jharkhand

1889. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: